

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Claims 1 and 11 have been amended to call for a “lithographic printing plate precursor” having a “lithographic substrate having a hydrophilic surface” as described on pages 3 (lines 3-4), 12 (lines 9-11 and 17-18), and 13 (lines 9-10). New claim 21 is directed to specific lithographic substrates as described on page 12 (lines 15-16). Thus, the amended claims are supported by the original disclosure.

Applicants respectfully request the rejoining of Claims 11-20 to Claims 1-10 and 21 as the scope of the lithographic printing plate precursor is the same for both independent claims 1 and 11.

Applicants appreciate the indication of allowability of the subject matter in Claims 8-10, but it is believed that all pending claims are allowable.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102(b)

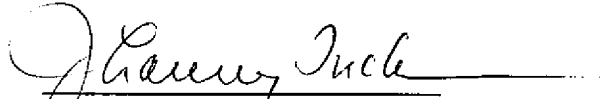
Claims 1-3 have been rejected as lacking novelty over U.S. Patent 5,589,322 (Lobo et al.). This rejection is respectfully traversed. The presently claimed invention is directed to lithography, i.e. lithographic printing plate precursors and methods of using such. Lobo et al. is directed to photography and photographic elements. Nothing in Lobo et al. describes lithographic media as claimed in the present invention. Thus, the anticipation rejection over Lobo et al. should be withdrawn.

Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 4-7 have been rejected as unpatentable over the teaching in Lobo et al. This rejection is also respectfully traversed. As noted above, Lobo et al. teaches photographic materials and components useful therein. Nothing in the way of photographic elements would teach or suggest the presently claimed invention that is directed to lithographic printing plate precursors having a lithographic substrate with a hydrophilic surface. While both photography and lithography provides images, they represent very different technologies with very different imaging chemistries and components. They have been recognized as very distinct technologies and industries for many decades, and the teaching of one does not suggest the other. Thus, this rejection should also be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, reconsideration of this patent application is respectfully requested. A prompt and favorable action by the examiner is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,



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If the Examiner is unable to reach the Applicant(s) Attorney at the telephone number provided, the Examiner is requested to communicate with Eastman Kodak Company Patent Operations at (585) 477-4656.